

Another Idea for Landing Gears

From the April 2004 issue of the Windy Sock, the newsletter of the San Antonio, Tx, Alamo Escadrille, Joe Joseph, Editor

Paul McIlrath comes through with this one: "Dear Joe....After reading about George White's ingenious magnetic breakaway landing gear, I had to write about another shock absorber which has worked well for me for a dozen years or more. Description appeared in Bill Warner's column in American Modeler September 1990 and some time later in English Aeromodeller. Conventional wire gears absorb shock by bending. This one works in torsion. In the sketches, the internal horizontal sections absorb most of the shock by twisting. The exposed strut bends much less. The wheels track better in take-offs and landings and the gear can deflect an amazing amount without taking a permanent set. The horizontal section must be secured to a spar or bulkhead so it will not move but is able to twist. I have bound or sandwiched them using acetate glue, and they break free (to twist) with the first landing shock. The internal vertical legs must be securely fastened to a rugged structural member...

